

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/616,073	OPHIR ET AL.	
	Examiner Mujtaba K. Chaudry	Art Unit 2133	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to 4/19/2006.
2.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2 and 5-18.
3.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a)  All
  - b)  Some\*
  - c)  None
  1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4.  A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

#### Attachment(s)

1.  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2.  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3.  Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4.  Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5.  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6.  Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7.  Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8.  Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9.  Other \_\_\_\_\_.

ALBERT DEACODY  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

### **DETAILED ACTION**

Applicants' response was received April 19, 2006.

- Claims 1, 2 and 5-18 are in condition for allowance.
- Amended drawings submitted are accepted.
- The abstract submitted is accepted.
- The objection to claim 1 is withdrawn.
- Amendment to independent claims with allowable subject matter is acknowledged and claims are allowed.
- Rejections under 35 USC 112 with regard to claim 1 are withdrawn in light of amendment.

Application allowed.

### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Claims 1, 2 and 5-18 are allowed. The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Independent claim 1 of the present application teaches, in part, a method for trellis coded modulation decoding comprising, among other steps, choosing between parallel branches between states in the trellis, and assign branch metrics to each branch and each branch metric is calculated by adding the absolute values of the real and imaginary parts of the complex vector resulting from the subtraction of the received symbol and the closest symbol in each subset to

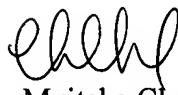
implement simplified metric Viterbi decoding. Particularly, the foregoing limitation is not found in the prior arts of record.

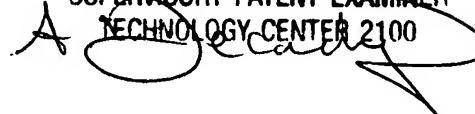
Independent claim 11 includes similar limitations of independent claim 1 and therefore is allowed for similar reasons.

Dependent claims 2, 5-10 and 12-18 depend from allowable independent claims 1 and 11 and inherently include limitations therein and therefore are allowed as well.

Any inquiries concerning this communication should be directed to the examiner, Mujtaba Chaudry who may be reached at 571-272-3817. The examiner may normally be reached Mon – Thur 6:30 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, please contact the examiner's supervisor, Albert DeCady at 571-272-3819.

  
Mujtaba Chaudry  
Art Unit 2133  
June 14, 2006

  
ALBERT DECADY  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100